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JUN 09 2009

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of	:	
Bonnie C. SEXTON	:	
Application No. 10/538,556	:	DECISION ON PETITION
Filed: June 13, 2005	:	
Attorney Docket No. US02 0576 US	:	

This is a decision on the petition under the unintentional provisions of 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed April 21, 2009, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The application became abandoned for failure to reply in a timely manner to the non-final Office action mailed, July 15, 2008, which set a shortened statutory period for reply of three (3) months. No extensions of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) were obtained. Accordingly, the application became abandoned on October 16, 2008.

The petition satisfies the requirements of 37 CFR 1.137(b) in that petitioner has supplied (1) the reply in the form of an amendment, (2) the petition fee of \$1620; and (3) a proper statement of unintentional delay.

It is not apparent whether the person signing the statement of unintentional delay was in a position to have firsthand or direct knowledge of the facts and circumstances of the delay at issue. Nevertheless, such statement is being treated as having been made as the result of a reasonable inquiry into the facts and circumstances of such delay. See 37 CFR 10.18(b) and Changes to Patent Practice and Procedure; Final Rule Notice, 62 Fed. Reg. 53131, 53178 (October 10, 1997), 1203 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 63, 103 (October 21, 1997). In the event that such an inquiry has not been made, petitioner must make such an inquiry. If such inquiry results in the discovery that it is not correct that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional, petitioner must notify the Office.

There is no indication that the person signing the petition was ever given a power of attorney to prosecute the application. If the person signing the petition desires to receive future

correspondence regarding this application, the appropriate power of attorney document must be submitted.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to Diane Goodwyn at (571) 272-6735.

This application is being referred to Technology Center AU 2437 for appropriate action by the Examiner in the normal course of business on the reply received April 21, 2009.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thurman Page", is written over the printed name.

Thurman Page
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions